A NOTE ON WEIGHTED HOMOGENEOUS SICIAK-ZAHARYUTA EXTREMAL FUNCTIONS

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ABSTRACT. We prove that for any given upper semicontinuous function φ on an open subset E of $\mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$, such that the complex cone generated by E minus the origin is connected, the homogeneous Siciak-Zaharyuta function with the weight φ on E, can be represented as an envelope of a disc functional.

Introduction. Let \mathcal{L} denote the Lelong class on \mathbb{C}^n and \mathcal{L}^h the subclass of functions u which are logarithmically homogeneous. Let $\varphi \colon E \to \overline{\mathbb{R}}$ be a function on a subset E of \mathbb{C}^n taking values in the extended real line $\overline{\mathbb{R}}$. The Siciak-Zaharyuta extremal function $V_{E,\varphi}$ with weight φ is defined by

$$V_{E,\varphi} = \sup\{u \in \mathcal{L} ; u | E \le \varphi\}.$$

The homogeneous Siciak-Zaharyuta extremal function $V_{E,\varphi}^h$ with weight φ is defined similarly with \mathcal{L}^h in the role of \mathcal{L} . In the special case when $\varphi = 0$ we only write V_E (and V_E^h) and we call this function the (homogeneous) Siciak-Zaharyuta extremal function for the set E. The function V_E (V_E^h) is also called the (homogeneous) pluricomplex Green function for E with pole at infinity.

Theorem 1. Let $\varphi \colon E \to \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$ be an upper semicontinuous function on an open subset E of $\mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$. Assume that there exists a function in \mathcal{L}^h dominated by φ on E. Then the largest logarithmically homogeneous function $\mathbb{C}E \to \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$ dominated by φ on E is upper semicontinuous on \mathbb{C}^*E and it is of the form $\log \varrho_{E,\varphi}$, where

(1)
$$\varrho_{E,\varphi}(z) = \inf\{|\lambda| e^{\varphi(z/\lambda)}; \ \lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*, \ z/\lambda \in E\}, \qquad z \in \mathbb{C}^*E.$$

If \mathbb{C}^*E is connected, then for every $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$

$$V_{E,\varphi}^h(z) = \inf \Big\{ \int_{\mathbb{T}} \log \varrho_{E,\varphi}(f_1,\ldots,f_n) \, d\sigma \, ; \, f \in \mathcal{O}(\overline{\mathbb{D}},\mathbb{P}^n), \, f = [f_0:\cdots:f_n], \Big\}$$

(2)
$$f(\mathbb{T}) \subset \mathbb{C}^* E, f_0(0) = 1, (f_1(0), \dots, f_n(0)) = z.$$

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If $\mathbb{C}E = \mathbb{C}^n$, then for every $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$

(3)
$$V_{E,\varphi}^{h}(z) = \inf \Big\{ \int_{\mathbb{T}} \log \varrho_{E,\varphi} \circ f \, d\sigma \, ; \, f \in \mathcal{O}(\overline{\mathbb{D}}, \mathbb{C}^{n}), \, f(0) = z \Big\}.$$

A disc envelope formula is a formula where the values of a function F defined on a complex space X with values on the extended real line $\overline{\mathbb{R}}$ are given as $F(z) = \inf\{H(f); f \in \mathcal{B}(z)\}$, where H is disc functional, i.e., a function defined on some subset \mathcal{A} of $\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D}, X)$, the set of analytic discs in X, with values on $\overline{\mathbb{R}}$, \mathcal{B} is a subclass of \mathcal{A} , and $\mathcal{B}(z)$ consists of all of $f \in \mathcal{B}$ with center z = f(0).

The formula (2) is an example of a disc envelope formula, where \mathcal{A} consists of all closed analytic discs with value in the projective space, i.e., elements f in $\mathcal{O}(\overline{\mathbb{D}}, \mathbb{P}^n)$ which map the unit circle \mathbb{T} into \mathbb{C}^*E , H(f) is the integral, and \mathcal{B} is the subset of \mathcal{A} consisting of discs with $f_0(0) = 1$. We identify a point $[1:z] \in \mathbb{P}^n$ with the point $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$.

For general information on the Siciak-Zaharyuta extremal function see Siciak [8, 9, 10, 11, 12] and Zaharyuta [13]. The first disc envelope formula for V_E was proved by Lempert in the case when E is an open convex subset of \mathbb{C}^n with real analytic boundary. (The proof is given in Momm [5, Appendix].) Lárusson and Sigurdsson [2] proved disc envelope formulas for V_E for open connected subsets E of \mathbb{C}^n . Magnússon and Sigurdsson [4] generalized this result and obtained a disc formula for $V_{E,\varphi}$ in the case when φ is an upper semicontinuous function on an open connected subset E of \mathbb{C}^n . Drinovec Drnovšek and Forstnerič [1] proved disc envelope formulas for V_E for open subsets E of an irreducible and locally irreducible algebraic subvariety of \mathbb{C}^n . Recently, Magnússon [3] established disc envelope formulas for the global extremal function in projective space.

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Notation. Let \mathbb{D} denote the unit disc in \mathbb{C} , \mathbb{T} the unit circle, and σ the arc length measure on \mathbb{T} normalized to 1. An analytic disc is a holomorphic map $f \colon \mathbb{D} \to X$, where X is some complex space. We let $\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{D},X)$ denote the set of all analytic discs. We say that the disc is closed if it extends as a holomorphic map to some neighbourhood of the closed unit disc $\overline{\mathbb{D}}$ with values in X and we let $\mathcal{O}(\overline{\mathbb{D}},X)$ denote the set of all closed analytic discs in X. The point $z = f(0) \in X$ is called the center of f.

For a subset X of \mathbb{C}^n we let $\mathcal{USC}(X)$ denote the set of all upper semicontinuous functions on X, and for open subset U of \mathbb{C}^n we denote by $\mathcal{PSH}(U)$ the set of all plurisubharmonic functions on U. The Lelong class \mathcal{L} consists of all $u \in \mathcal{PSH}(\mathbb{C}^n)$ such that $u - \log^+ |\cdot|$ is bounded above and \mathcal{L}^h is the

subclass of all logarithmically homogeneous functions, i.e., functions satisfying $u(\lambda z) = u(z) + \log |\lambda|$ for $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$ and $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$. Observe that every such function takes the value $-\infty$ at the origin. For every subset E of \mathbb{C}^n we set $\mathbb{C}E = \{\lambda z \, ; \, \lambda \in \mathbb{C}, z \in E\}$, $\mathbb{C}^*E = \{\lambda z \, ; \, \lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*, z \in E\}$ and we call $\mathbb{C}E$ the complex cone generated by E. Note that complex cones are suitable sets for the domains of definition of logarithmically homogeneous functions.

Let \mathbb{P}^n denote the *n*-dimensional projective space, $\pi : \mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\} \to \mathbb{P}^n$ the natural projection, $(z_0, \ldots, z_n) \mapsto [z_0 : \cdots : z_n]$, and identify \mathbb{C}^n with the subset of all $[z_0 : \cdots : z_n]$ with $z_0 \neq 0$ and, in particular, the point $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$ with $[1 : z] \in \mathbb{P}^n$. The hyperplane at infinity is $H_{\infty} = \pi(Z_0 \setminus \{0\})$, where Z_0 is the hyperplane in \mathbb{C}^{n+1} defined by the equation $z_0 = 0$. Then $\mathbb{P}^n = \mathbb{C}^n \cup H_{\infty}$.

Review of a few results. Assume that $\psi \colon X \to \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$ is a measurable function on a subset X of \mathbb{C}^n , such that there is $u \in \mathcal{L}$ satisfying $u|X \leq \psi$. It is an easy observation that a function $u \in \mathcal{PSH}(\mathbb{C}^n)$ is in \mathcal{L} if and only if the function

$$(z_0,\ldots,z_n) \mapsto u(z_1/z_0,\ldots,z_n/z_0) + \log|z_0|$$

extends as a plurisubharmonic function from $\mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus Z_0$ to $\mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\}$. Let v denote this extension. Take $f = [f_0 : \cdots : f_n] \in \mathcal{O}(\overline{\mathbb{D}}, \mathbb{P}^n)$ with $f_0(0) = 1$, $(f_1(0), \ldots, f_n(0)) = z$, satisfying $f(\mathbb{T}) \subset X$, and define $\tilde{f} = (f_0, \ldots, f_n) \in \mathcal{O}(\overline{\mathbb{D}}, \mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\})$. Then the subaverage property of $v \circ \tilde{f}$ and the Riesz representation formula applied to $\log |f_0|$ give (see [4, p. 243])

$$u(z) = u(f_1(0), \dots, f_n(0)) + \log|f_0(0)| = v \circ \tilde{f}(0)$$

$$\leq \int_{\mathbb{T}} u(f_1/f_0, \dots, f_n/f_0) d\sigma + \int_{\mathbb{T}} \log|f_0| d\sigma$$

$$\leq \int_{\mathbb{T}} \psi(f_1/f_0, \dots, f_n/f_0) d\sigma - \sum_{a \in f^{-1}(H_\infty)} m_{f_0}(a) \log|a|.$$

For an open connected $X \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ and $\psi \in \mathcal{USC}(X)$, Magnússon and Sigurdsson [4, Theorem 2] proved that for every $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$

$$V_{X,\psi}(z) = \inf \left\{ -\sum_{a \in f^{-1}(H_{\infty})} m_{f_0}(a) \log |a| + \int_{\mathbb{T}} \psi(f_1/f_0, \dots, f_n/f_0) d\sigma ; \right.$$

$$(4) \qquad f \in \mathcal{O}(\overline{\mathbb{D}}, \mathbb{P}^n), \ f(\mathbb{T}) \subset X, \ f_0(0) = 1, \ (f_1(0), \dots, f_n(0)) = z \right\}.$$

Our main result, Theorem 1, will follow from this formula and the following

Proposition 2. Let $\varphi \colon E \to \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$ be a function on a subset $E \subset \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}$ such that there exists $u \in \mathcal{L}^h$ satisfying $u|E \leq \varphi$. Let $\tilde{\varphi} \colon \mathbb{C}E \to \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$ be the supremum of all logarithmically homogeneous functions on $\mathbb{C}E$ dominated by φ on E. Then the following hold:

(i) $\tilde{\varphi}$ is logarithmically homogeneous on $\mathbb{C}E$ and for every $z \in \mathbb{C}^*E$

(5)
$$\tilde{\varphi}(z) = \inf\{\varphi(\lambda z) - \log|\lambda|; \ \lambda \in \mathbb{C}^* \ and \ \lambda z \in E\},\$$

(ii)
$$V_{E,\varphi}^h = V_{E,\tilde{\varphi}}^h = V_{\mathbb{C}^*E,\tilde{\varphi}}^h$$
.

If, in addition to the above, \mathbb{C}^*E is nonpluripolar and $\varphi \in \mathcal{USC}(E)$ then

(iii)
$$\tilde{\varphi} \in \mathcal{USC}(\mathbb{C}^*E)$$
 and $V_{E,\varphi}^h = V_{\mathbb{C}^*E,\tilde{\varphi}}$,

(iv) if
$$\mathbb{C}E = \mathbb{C}^n$$
, then $\tilde{\varphi} \in \mathcal{USC}(\mathbb{C}^n)$ and

$$V_{E,\varphi}^h = \sup\{u \in \mathcal{PSH}(\mathbb{C}^n) ; u \leq \tilde{\varphi}\}.$$

Proof. (i) It is easy to see that the supremum of any family of logarithmically homogeneous functions defined on a complex cone is a logarithmically homogeneous function provided the family is bounded from above at any point of the cone. Take $z \in \mathbb{C}^*E$ and choose $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$ such that $\lambda z \in E$. For any logarithmically homogeneous function u on $\mathbb{C}E$ dominated by φ on E we have

(6)
$$u(z) = u(\lambda z) - \log|\lambda| \le \varphi(\lambda z) - \log|\lambda|$$

which implies that the family is bounded from above at z. Since all logarithmically homogeneous functions take the value $-\infty$ at the origin the family is bounded from above at any point of the cone.

Let ψ denote the function on \mathbb{C}^*E whose value at z is given by the right hand side of the equation (5). For a logarithmically homogeneous function u on $\mathbb{C}E$, dominated by φ on E, we have $u(z) \leq \varphi(\lambda z) - \log |\lambda|$ for any $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$ such that $\lambda z \in E$ by (6). Taking infimum over all $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$ with $\lambda z \in E$ shows that $u \leq \psi$ on \mathbb{C}^*E . Hence $\tilde{\varphi} \leq \psi$ on \mathbb{C}^*E . To prove the converse inequality note that

(7)
$$\psi(\mu z) = \inf\{\varphi(\lambda \mu z) - \log|\lambda|; \ \lambda \in \mathbb{C}^* \text{ and } \lambda \mu z \in E\}$$
$$= \inf\{\varphi(\lambda \mu z) - \log|\lambda \mu|; \ \lambda \in \mathbb{C}^* \text{ and } \lambda \mu z \in E\} + \log|\mu|$$
$$= \psi(z) + \log|\mu|$$

for any $z \in \mathbb{C}^*E$ and $\mu \in \mathbb{C}^*$ thus the map ψ is logarithmically homogeneous. Since $\psi \leq \varphi$ on E we get $\psi \leq \tilde{\varphi}$.

- (ii) Since $\varphi \geq \tilde{\varphi}$ on E and $E \subset \mathbb{C}^*E$ we have $V_{E,\varphi}^h \geq V_{E,\tilde{\varphi}}^h \geq V_{\mathbb{C}^*E,\tilde{\varphi}}^h$. For proving the two equalities we take $u \in \mathcal{L}^h$ with $u|E \leq \varphi$. By (i) we obtain $u \leq \tilde{\varphi}$ on \mathbb{C}^*E which implies $V_{\mathbb{C}^*E,\tilde{\varphi}}^h \geq V_{E,\varphi}^h$.
- (iii) To prove that $\tilde{\varphi}$ is upper semicontinuous take $z_0 \in \mathbb{C}^*E$ and $c > \tilde{\varphi}(z_0)$. We need to show that $c > \tilde{\varphi}(z)$ for all z in some neighbourhood U of z_0 . We choose $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{C}^*$ such that $\lambda_0 z_0 \in E$ and such that $c > \varphi(\lambda_0 z_0) \log |\lambda_0|$. Since $\varphi \in \mathcal{USC}(E)$ there exists an open neighbourhood U of z_0 such that $\lambda_0 z \in E$ and $c > \varphi(\lambda_0 z) \log |\lambda_0|$ for all $z \in U$. By (i) we have $c > \tilde{\varphi}(z)$ for all $z \in U$.

Since $\mathcal{L}^h \subset \mathcal{L}$ we have $V_{\mathbb{C}^*E,\tilde{\varphi}}^h \leq V_{\mathbb{C}^*E,\tilde{\varphi}}$. For proving the opposite inequality we take $u \in \mathcal{L}$ such that $u \leq \tilde{\varphi}$ on \mathbb{C}^*E . Then $u(\lambda z) - \log |\lambda| \leq \tilde{\varphi}(\lambda z) - \log |\lambda| = \tilde{\varphi}(z)$ for all $z \in \mathbb{C}^*E$ and $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$. Let v be the upper

semicontinous regularization of the function $\sup\{u(\lambda \cdot) - \log |\lambda| ; \lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*\}$ on \mathbb{C}^n . We have $u \leq v \leq \tilde{\varphi}$ on \mathbb{C}^*E and since \mathbb{C}^*E is nonpluripolar and $\tilde{\varphi}$ is locally bounded above on \mathbb{C}^*E , we have $v \in \mathcal{L}$. A similar calculation as in (7) shows that v is logarithmically homogeneous, which proves the opposite inequality.

(iv) The fact that $\tilde{\varphi}$ is upper semicontinuous at 0 easily follows from the fact that $\tilde{\varphi}$ is bounded from above on the unit sphere and that it is logarithmically homogeneous. By (iii) we get $V_{E,\varphi}^h = V_{\mathbb{C}^*E,\tilde{\varphi}}$ and it is easy to see that in the case $\mathbb{C}E = \mathbb{C}^n$ the latter equals $V_{\mathbb{C}^n,\tilde{\varphi}}$.

Let $P_{\tilde{\varphi}}$ denote the function whose value at z is given by the right hand side of the equation. Since $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{PSH}(\mathbb{C}^n)$ it follows $V_{\mathbb{C}^n,\tilde{\varphi}} \leq P_{\tilde{\varphi}}$. To prove the opposite inequality, it is enough to show that $P_{\tilde{\varphi}} \in \mathcal{L}$. Since $\tilde{\varphi} \subset \mathcal{USC}(\mathbb{C}^n)$ it follows that $P_{\tilde{\varphi}}$ is the largest plurisubharmonic function on \mathbb{C}^n dominated by $\tilde{\varphi}$. By upper semicontinuity the map $\tilde{\varphi}$ is bounded from above on the unit sphere in \mathbb{C}^n by some constant $M \in \mathbb{R}$. Since $\tilde{\varphi}$ is logarithmically homogeneous we get

$$P_{\tilde{\varphi}}(\lambda z) \leq \tilde{\varphi}(\lambda z) \leq \log |\lambda| + M = \log |\lambda z| + M$$
 for any $z \in \mathbb{C}^n$, $|z| = 1$, and $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$. It follows that $P_{\tilde{\varphi}} \in \mathcal{L}$.

Proof of Theorem 1. By Proposition 2 the largest logarithmically homogeneous function $\tilde{\varphi} \colon \mathbb{C}E \to \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$ dominated by φ on E is upper semicontinuous on \mathbb{C}^*E and $\varrho_{E,\varphi} = e^{\tilde{\varphi}(z)} = \inf\{|\lambda|e^{\varphi(z/\lambda)}; \lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*, \ z/\lambda \in E\}$ which proves (1).

If we take $X=\mathbb{C}^*E$ and $\psi=\tilde{\varphi}$ in (4), then logarithmic homogeneity of $\tilde{\varphi}$ on \mathbb{C}^*E implies that

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}} \tilde{\varphi}(f_1/f_0,\ldots,f_n/f_0) d\sigma = \int_{\mathbb{T}} \tilde{\varphi}(f_1,\ldots,f_n) d\sigma - \int_{\mathbb{T}} \log|f_0| d\sigma.$$

If $f_0(0) = 1$, then the Riesz representation formula gives

$$\sum_{a \in f^{-1}(H_{\infty})} m_{f_0}(a) \log |a| + \int_{\mathbb{T}} \log |f_0| d\sigma = 0,$$

which implies that the right hand side of (4) reduces to

$$V_{\mathbb{C}^*E,\tilde{\varphi}}(z) = \inf \Big\{ \int_{\mathbb{T}} \tilde{\varphi}(f_1,\ldots,f_n) \, d\sigma \, ; \, f \in \mathcal{O}(\overline{\mathbb{D}},\mathbb{P}^n),$$
$$f(\mathbb{T}) \subset \mathbb{C}^*E, \, f_0(0) = 1, \, (f_1(0),\ldots,f_n(0)) = z \Big\},$$

thus (2) follows from Proposition 2 (iii).

If $\mathbb{C}E = \mathbb{C}^n$ then Proposition 2 (iv) and Poletsky theorem [6, 7] imply

$$\begin{split} V_{E,\varphi}^h &= \sup\{u \in \mathcal{PSH}(\mathbb{C}^n) \, ; \, u \leq \tilde{\varphi}\} \\ &= \inf\Big\{ \int_{\mathbb{T}} \log \varrho_{E,\varphi} \circ f \, d\sigma \, ; \, f \in \mathcal{O}(\overline{\mathbb{D}}, \mathbb{C}^n), \, f(0) = z \Big\} \end{split}$$

which proves (3).

Observation. In the special case $\varphi = 0$ we write ϱ_E for $\varrho_{E,\varphi}$. The function ϱ_E is absolutely homogeneous of degree 1, i.e., $\varrho_E(z\zeta) = |z|\varrho_E(\zeta)$. Thus, if E is a balanced domain, i.e., $\overline{\mathbb{D}}E = E$, then ϱ_E is its Minkowski function.

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